

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5       An information recording medium comprises a user  
area, and a spare area including a replacement area, wherein  
the replacement area may be used instead of a defective area  
in the user area. The user area and the spare area include  
a plurality of sectors. Each of the plurality of sectors  
includes a user data area for recording user data, and an  
attribute data area for recording defect replacement  
10 allowance attribute data. The defect replacement allowance  
attribute data indicates whether recording of the user data  
has been executed in a state that the execution of a defect  
replacement process is allowed. In the defect replacement  
process, the defective area in the user area is replaced  
15 with the replacement area in the spare area.